

CONFIDENTIAL

1 September 1952

Evaluation of the USSR Area Program conducted by the Office of Training, summer 1952.

1. This type of area program can contribute to increasing analyst effectiveness for the student who does not have a perspective view of Russia as a unit. However, I believe that it served more as a refresher course than as an introductory course for the majority of the participants.

The value and effectiveness of any program depend ~~much~~ in a large measure upon the student-teacher participation in the problems to be solved. If the students behavior and thinking has not been modified, then the program, in my opinion has been a waste of time, and could have been employed to a better advantage elsewhere.

A program inducing the listeners to think, to analyze, and to solve work problems relevant to their duties would have been more effective.

2. The program was useful to me in that it was a review of the material which I have learned while at the university.

3. These criticisms are intended to be constructive: - It appeared that the lecturers were not acquainted with the backgrounds of their listeners and were more or less guessing as to the subject matter to present. It also appeared that the lecturers were not aware of the type of work that the listeners were performing.

The physical features of the classroom were not conducive towards producing a receptive audience. It was rather difficult for many of the listeners to sit in small uncomfortable folding chairs for two hours. I would suggest the use of comfortable arm chairs so that a listener could devote all his efforts to participation in the lecture. Unnecessary noises from lawn mowers, and other motors or disturbances was very annoying.

Two hours of lecture, five days a week, is not profitable for best learning results. I would suggest one hour of lecture and one hour of discussion for better psychological reaction to the program.

It would be useful and reasonable for students to do some reading and preparation of papers in relation with the lectures.

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